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AGE OF ULTRON™

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AGE OF ULTRON™

BOOK FIVE

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see inside for details

AGE OF ULTRON
BOOK FIVE

PREVIOUSLY IN AGE OF ULTRON...

YEARS AGO, FOUNDING AVENGER HENRY PYM INVENTED THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE KNOWN AS ULTRON. ONCE ULTRON BECAME SENTIENT, HE DEDICATED HIS EXISTENCE TO DESTROYING HUMANITY. THE AVENGERS FOILED HIS EVERY ATTEMPT, BUT SOME PREDICTED THAT WITH HIS CONTINUOUS EVOLUTION, ULTRON WOULD ONE DAY OVERCOME HIS FOES. THAT DAY HAS COME.

MANY ARE DEAD. LATEST TO FALL WERE LUKE CAGE AND SHE-HULK, WHOSE MISSION TO INFILTRATE ULTRON'S OPERATION WENT HORRIBLY WRONG. BEFORE HIS DEATH, CAGE FLEW TO THE SAVAGE LAND, WHERE EARTH'S SURVIVING HEROES HAVE GATHERED. AS EMMA FROST READ HIS DYING THOUGHTS HE REVEALED WHAT HE HAD LEARNED: ULTRON IS OVERSEEING THIS DESTRUCTION FROM THE FUTURE USING THE VISION AS HIS CONDUIT. BLACK WIDOW, MOON KNIGHT AND RED HULK HAVE ALSO COME TO THE SAVAGE LAND WITH A PLAN OF THEIR OWN, A HAIL MARY PLAY CARE OF NICK FURY.

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MONTHS AGO.

DR. RICHARDS, DR. PYM...

TA-DAA.

THE VISION.

I WAS WONDERING WHERE HE'D BEEN HIDING.

A WHILE AGO, *TOO* LONG AGO, HE FELL DURING ONE OF THE AVENGERS' DARKEST HOURS.

RIPPED IN HALF.

AS YOU CAN TELL FROM HIS SPECS, HE IS A ONE-OF-A-KIND BIOMECHANISM.

CREATED BY ULTRON.

THIS IS-- *LOOK* AT THIS.

THIS IS GORGEOUS.

REALLY.

NEVER SEEN ANYTHING *LIKE* THIS.

AND I'VE SEEN SOME THINGS.

AND *THAT'S* WHY WE'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO DUPLICATE THE TECHNOLOGY THAT CREATED HIM...

BECAUSE WE'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO DUPLICATE THE TECHNOLOGY THAT CREATED *ULTRON.*

I THOUGHT *YOU* CREATED ULTRON.

EVERYONE THINKS I CREATED ULTRON, BUT REALLY I ONLY PLANTED THE SEED. SO I GUESS IT DEPENDS ON YOUR DEFINITION OF CREATION.

I CREATED THE *FIRST VERSION* OF HIS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

I TRIED TO CREATE SOMETHING SMARTER THAN US.

FROM THERE ULTRON *TOOK OVER.*

ULTRON CREATED WHAT HE BECAME.

HE WAS SMART ENOUGH TO DO THIS, NOT ME.

AND *HE* CREATED THE VISION.

WELL, I CAN UNDERSTAND YOU NOT WANTING TO TAKE *FULL* CREDIT FOR CREATING ULTRON

NOBODY WANTS TO TAKE CREDIT FOR A HOMICIDAL, GENOCIDAL, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE THAT THINKS THAT THE EARTH WOULD BE BETTER OFF WITHOUT HUMAN BEINGS.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO HERE TO GET THE VISION BACK ON HIS FEET?

IF I KNEW I WOULD HAVE ALREADY DONE IT. THIS IS WHY I'M COMING TO YOU.

HE HAS A SELF-HEALING, SELF-REALIZING SEQUENCER.

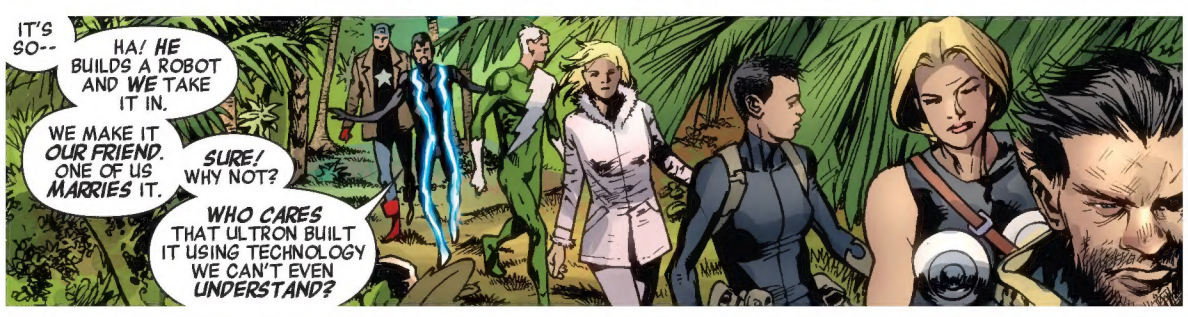
HE SHOULD HAVE HEALED HIMSELF LONG AGO.

MAYBE HE'S DAMAGED BEYOND REPAIR.

HE IS SUPPOSED TO ALWAYS FIND A WAY TO HEAL HIMSELF.
AND HE DID, FOR A WHILE, BUT THEN IT STOPPED.
HE IS A BIOLOGICAL ENTITY. IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT HE'S JUST... EXPIRED.
I'D REALLY LIKE THAT NOT TO BE THE CASE.
AND I DON'T-- I DON'T FEEL I'VE EXHAUSTED EVERY AVENUE.
THOUGHT MAYBE THE THREE OF US...
THE ONLY GOOD THING THAT CAME OUT OF ULTRON WAS THE VISION.
SOMETIMES I FANTASIZE ABOUT GOING BACK IN TIME AND TELLING MYSELF TO NEVER CREATE ULTRON.
SOMETIMES I FANTASIZE ABOUT GOING BACK IN TIME AND BEING NICER TO VICTOR VON DOOM IN COLLEGE.
BUT THEN I THINK: THE VISION WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN CREATED...
AND WHO KNOWS WHAT THE WORLD WOULD LOOK LIKE THEN?
AND THEN YOU'D HAVE TO GO BACK AND KILL HITLER.
AND THEN YOU MIGHT AS WELL GO BACK TO THE GARDEN OF EDEN AND SMACK THAT APPLE OUT OF EVE'S HAND.
REALLY.
WHERE DOES IT END?

HRMM.
UM...
VISION?
WHAT DO WE DO?
VISION... IT'S TONY STARK.
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM? DO YOU RECOGNIZE ME?
MISTER STARK.
DOCTORS PYM AND RICHARDS.
YOU LOOK WELL.

THE SAVAGE LAND.
NOW.


IT'S SO--
HA! HE BUILDS A ROBOT AND WE TAKE IT IN.
WE MAKE IT OUR FRIEND. ONE OF US MARRIES IT.
SURE! WHY NOT?
WHO CARES THAT ULTRON BUILT IT USING TECHNOLOGY WE CAN'T EVEN UNDERSTAND?

AND HE--I'M TELLING YOU, ULTRON DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HE WAS EVER GOING TO USE THE VISION LIKE THIS.
WE SET HIM UP.
WE TOOK THE GUY IN.
WE PUT HIM IN PLACE SO THAT YEARS LATER, IN THE FUTURE, THAT DAMN ROBOT FIGURES OUT HOW TO USE THE VISION TO ATTACK US.

THERE.
EVERYBODY GET INTO RECON POSITION.
SET A PERIMETER.
STORM AND MONICA, TAKE TO THE SKY FOR AERIAL LOOKOUT.
EMMA?
I CAN'T RELY ON MY POWERS BUT I'M GETTING A *VERY* STRONG SENSE IT IS FORTIFIED TO BLOCK PSYCHIC PENETRATION.
LOGAN, YOUR NOSE PLEASE.

SMELLS LIKE JUNGLE.
I DON'T LIKE IT.
JUST THE FACT THAT IT WAS BUILT TO KEEP *TELEPATHS OUT* MEANS...
IT MEANS IT WAS BUILT WELL.
SUSAN?

SURE, WHAT THE HELL.

AAAAND... DEAD END.
IF I WAS NICK FURY, WHERE WOULD I HIDE A SECRET...

CRUMBLE

THERE'S A DOOR. A CODE LOCK. DO YOU HAVE THE CODE?
A CODE?
A NUMERIC CODE.
THERE'S NOTHING HERE ABOUT IT.
HOW'S YOUR SPIDER-SENSE?
PRETTY GOOD, HOW'S YOURS?
YOU SENSE ANY DANGER?
THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS.
I ACTUALLY HAVE TO BE *IN* DANGER--NOT JUST DOOMED AND DEPRESSED.
MY DOOMED AND DEPRESSED SENSE IS *BLARING LIKE A CAR HORN*, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN.

HULK, WOULD YOU MIND?

FOOM

FOOM
FOOM
FOOM

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

CHOOM
CHOOM
CHOOM

AARRGH! SON OF A--!

@#$E

WAIT.

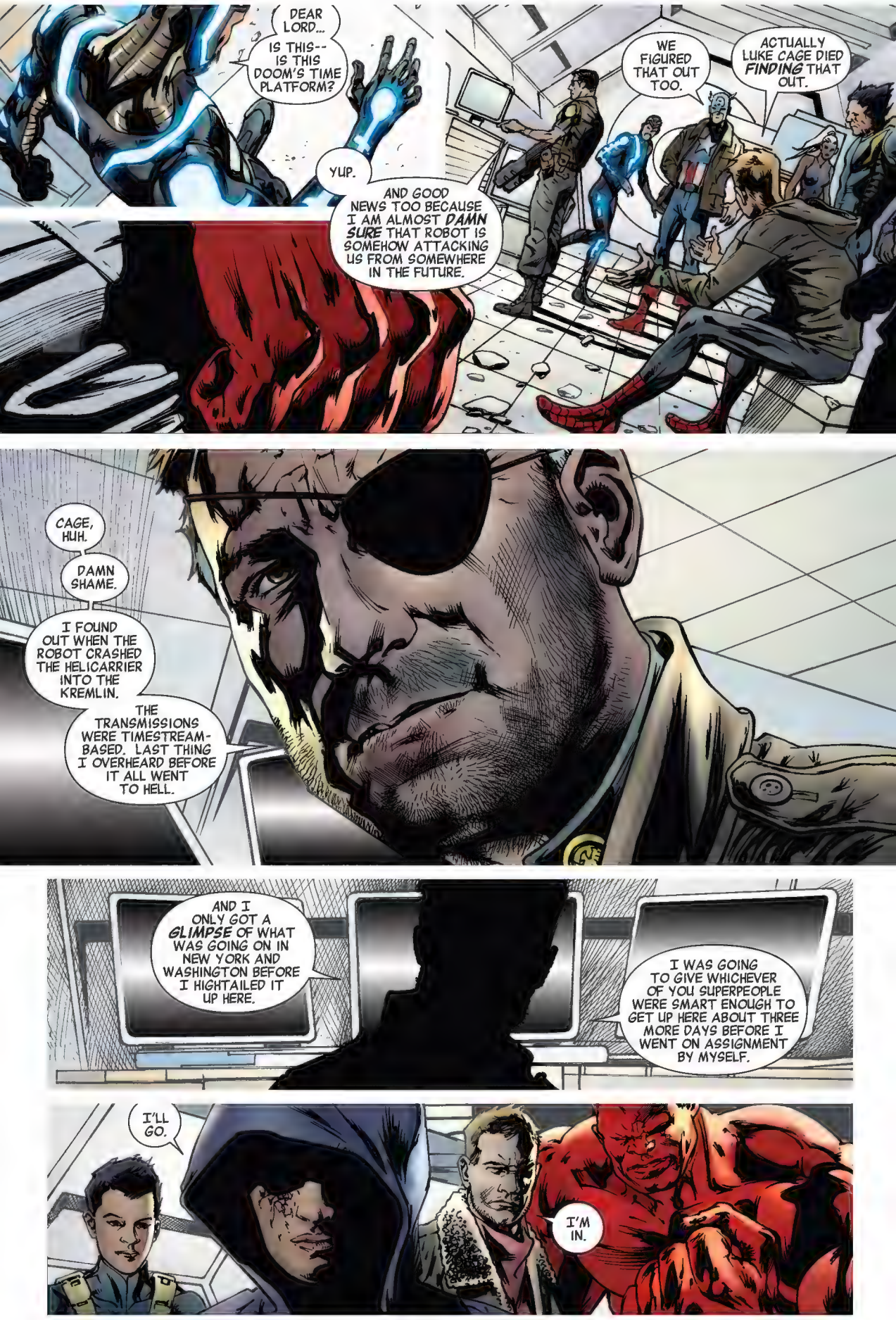
FFIIIZZZZZZZ

THUCK

SETTLE DOWN THERE, KA-ZAR.
YOU SEE WHAT THIS DID TO YOUR MISCOLORED HULK?
I IMAGINE IT'LL BLOW YOUR LOIN CLOTH TO WAKANDA.
NICK FURY?
@#$@#$!
-SNFF-
DAMN, AND IT'S REALLY HIM.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
NO ONE MAKE A MOVE. NO ONE MAKE A SOUND.
LET'S JUST SEE IF EVERYONE IS WHO THEY SAY THEY ARE.
OKAY THEN...
WELCOME TO THE END OF THE WORLD.

NATIONAL ALERT
it System has issued an Emer
Primary Entry Point System
Issued an
Emergency Action
Notification
PLEASE TELL ME YOU HAVE YOUR PASSPORT, PHILIP!
I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD GO.
YOU DON'T THINK WE SHOULD GO?
COME ON, DORIS, WHERE WE GOING?
WE LIVE IN A MAJOR CITY.
AUSTIN IS A MAJOR CITY.
WE GET THE HELL OUT OF THE CITY UNTIL SOMEONE TELLS US TO COME BACK.
WE SHOULD STAY PUT UNTIL WE HEAR--
HEAR? HEAR WHAT?
NO PHONE, NO INTERNET, NO POWER...
WE ALREADY HEARD WHAT HAPPENED TO NEW YORK AND CHICAGO. WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO--?
AUSTIN, TEXAS.
NOW.
THE AVENGERS WILL FIX THIS.
YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND.
I'M LEAVING. ARE YOU COMING?
OH MY GOD! DO YOU HEAR THAT?
I TOLD YOU! I TOLD YOU!
OH NO...

THE SAVAGE LAND,
FURY'S SECRET BUNKER.
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DOWN HERE, FURY?
A WEEK.
WHAT THE HELL TOOK YOU JAMOKES SO LONG?
WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THIS PLACE EXISTED.
I HAD IT BUILT AFTER THE SKRULL INVASION.
SO WHAT'S THE PLAN, EYE PATCH?
WE START TO PROCREATE, BUILD A NEW SPECIES OF SUPERHUMANS, AND IN ABOUT 22 YEARS WE GO GET THE ROBOT.
TERRIBLE JOKE.
IS THAT THE ULTIMATE NULLIFIER?
JEEZ.
THAT WOULD BE A YES.
WE'RE NOT THERE YET, ARE WE?
I WON'T EVEN ENTERTAIN THE THOUGHT.
WHAT'S THE PLAN, FURY?
FOR REAL.
YOU'RE DOWN HERE IN A DOOMSDAY SCENARIO.
YOU'RE THE MAN WITH A PLAN, WHAT'S THE PLAN?
YOU'RE STANDING ON IT.


DEAR LORD...
IS THIS-- IS THIS DOOM'S TIME PLATFORM?
YUP.
AND GOOD NEWS TOO BECAUSE I AM ALMOST DAMN SURE THAT ROBOT IS SOMEHOW ATTACKING US FROM SOMEWHERE IN THE FUTURE.
WE FIGURED THAT OUT TOO.
ACTUALLY LUKE CAGE DIED FINDING THAT OUT.
CAGE, HUH.
DAMN SHAME.
I FOUND OUT WHEN THE ROBOT CRASHED THE HELICARRIER INTO THE KREMLIN.
THE TRANSMISSIONS WERE TIMESTREAM-BASED. LAST THING I OVERHEARD BEFORE IT ALL WENT TO HELL.
AND I ONLY GOT A GLIMPSE OF WHAT WAS GOING ON IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON BEFORE I HIGHTAILED IT UP HERE.
I WAS GOING TO GIVE WHICHEVER OF YOU SUPERPEOPLE WERE SMART ENOUGH TO GET UP HERE ABOUT THREE MORE DAYS BEFORE I WENT ON ASSIGNMENT BY MYSELF.
I'LL GO.
I'M IN.

WE ARE GOING TO NEED MORE THAN YOU TWO.
THE PLAN IS WE HEAD UP TO THE ROBOT'S HOUSE IN THE FUTURE AND UNPLUG HIM FOR ALL TIME.
FOR *THAT* WE ARE GOING TO NEED FIREPOWER *AND* STEALTH.
AND TECH KNOWHOW.
GOOD.
GREAT.
NO.
NO?
ULTRON KNOWS WE'RE COMING.
HE NOW *KNOWS* WE KNOW WHERE HE IS.
ALL HONOR TO THE MEMORY OF LUKE CAGE, BUT ULTRON MAY HAVE JUST *USED* HIM TO SET A TRAP FOR US.
LETTING US *THINK* WE KNOW WHERE HE IS SO WE WILL GO THERE AND HE CAN *DISINTEGRATE* US.
OR CAGE *DID* HIT A HOME RUN BUT NOW ULTRON KNOWS *WE* KNOW AND HE'S READY FOR US.
IT'S... OUR ONLY HOPE.
WRONG.
OUR ONLY HOPE, SUNSHINE, IS WE GO *BACK* IN TIME, BEFORE THIS ROBOT WAS CREATED, AND WE CUT OFF THE HANDS OF THE GUY WHO CREATED IT.
HANK PYM CREATED IT.
SO WE GO BACK THERE AND WE CUT OFF HIS HEAD.
OR, WE GO BACK AND JUST *TELL HIM* NOT TO MAKE THE THING.
YEAH. HOW ABOUT WE JUST, YOU KNOW, TELL HIM.
NOT WHEN THE STAKES ARE THIS HIGH.
WE GO BACK IN TIME AND TELL *THAT* GUY NOT TO CREATE THE THING, WE'RE PRETTY MUCH *DARING* HIM TO DO IT.
HE'LL THINK HE CAN DO IT AND DO IT RIGHT. HE'LL THINK HE HAS TO.
WE KNOW THIS GUY.
HE WILL LOOK AT OUR WARNING AS A *CHALLENGE*.
I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT I DON'T DISAGREE.
NEITHER DO I.
AND COMPLETELY OBLITERATE THE SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM?
IF THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT ON A BUTTERFLY IS ASTRONOMICAL...
THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT ON *KILLING AN AVENGER* WOULD BE ASTRONOMICALLY *INSANE!*
NOT TO MENTION MORALLY HORRIFIC.

LOGAN, YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU WOULD DO TO THE WORLD IF YOU WENT BACK AND DID *ANYTHING* LIKE THAT.

BABE, I'M WILLING TO BET *WHATEVER* HAPPENS IS A HELL OF A LOT BETTER *THAN THIS.*

YOU AND HIM ARE THE *SAME KIND* OF SCIENCE NERD, STARK.

YOU TELL ME TRUE:

SOMEONE LIKE ME OR CAPTAIN AMERICA SHOWS UP ON YOUR DOORSTEP AND TELLS YOU *SPECIFICALLY* NOT TO DO SOMETHING...

CAP?

WELL, WHILE THE BOOK CLUB DECIDES WHAT THE MORAL THING TO DO IS, MAYBE SOME OF YOU WANT TO SUIT UP.

GRAB WHATEVER YOU NEED.

OH, THE MARK II.

I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE IT I'M NOT EVEN GOING TO YELL AT YOU FOR STEALING IT IN THE FIRST PLACE.

DIDN'T STEAL IT, YOU GAVE IT TO ME.

I DID?

BACK IN YOUR MORE... COCKTAILISH DAYS.

AND...YES! IT ISN'T CONNECTED TO ANYBODY'S SERVERS OR COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.

ULTRON SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DIG INTO IT AT ALL.

OH MARK II, I LOVE YOU.

WHOSE WAS THIS?

ARES, GOD OF WAR. MERRY CHRISTMAS.

UH, EXCUSE ME, *MY* WEB-SHOOTERS?

YOU'RE THE ONLY GUY WHO CAN HAVE WEB-SHOOTERS?

TONY, CAP, STORM, SUE, HULK, WIDOW, QUICKSILVER AND QUAKE...SORRY TO SAY I AM DRAFTING YOU.

WE'RE LEAVING NOW?

YOU WANT TO WAIT TILL PASSOVER?

DO WE HAVE COORDINATES?

I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA BASED ON OUR LAST ENCOUNTER WITH HIM.

THE REST OF US?

STAY BEHIND...

KA-ZAR... YOU'VE GOT THE COMM.

YOU NEED MY PEOPLE TO SET UP A CAMP AND KEEP A PERIMETER AROUND HERE.

YOU'LL BE THE LAST LINE OF DEFENSE IF ULTRON COMES BACK AROUND HERE AGAIN.

LET'S HIT IT.

TIME PLATFORM ACTIVATED.
ENERGY FLUX INDICATED.
HERE WE GO...
IF WE DON'T MAKE IT BACK...
IF YOU DON'T HEAR FROM US IN THREE HOURS...
BURN THIS PLACE AND HEAD OUT.
CAPTAIN?
WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.
HEY, BARTON, YOU GOT ANY IDEA HOW TO GET THAT THING UP AND RUNNING AGAIN?
YOU WANT TO CHASE AFTER THEM?
HE WANTS TO GO BACK IN TIME AND TAKE CARE OF HANK PYM.
NO.
NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT.

I'VE SEEN EVERYONE DIE AT THE HAND OF THIS THING.
THIS THING KILLED THOR, THE THING, LUKE CAGE...
NICK FURY AND THOSE GUYS...? THEY AIN'T GONNA MAKE IT BACK.
AND I AIN'T COME THIS FAR IN LIFE TO LET IT ALL GO TO HELL LIKE THIS.
START IT UP AND LET ME PUT THE WORLD BACK THE WAY IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE...
AND JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR, I AIN'T ASKIN' FOR PERMISSION.
TO BE CONTINUED...

AGE OF ULTRON
BOOK FIVE

ULTRON

HANK PYM

IRON MAN

REED RICHARDS

THE VISION

CAPTAIN AMERICA

QUICKSILVER

EMMA FROST

DAISYJOHNSON

VALKYRIE

WOLVERINE

MONICA RAMBEAU

SPIDER-MAN

HAWKEYE

STORM

SUE STORM

RED HULK

BLACK WIDOW

MOON KNIGHT

KA-ZAR

NICK FURY

NEXT:

HEAD RUSH!!!